

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 has been amended to correct an error changing element 500 to element 150 so that it coincides with the specification.

Figure 4 has been amended to include elements 324 and 326 so that they coincide with the specification at page 12, lines 11-20.

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1 through 21 are pending in this application.

Claims 1 and 16 have been amended.

Regarding the § 102 Rejection

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) for being anticipated by Clauditz (U.S. Patent No. 5,330,576).

Applicant respectfully submits that Clauditz does not anticipate a supply tube that supplies fluid directly to a press and a drain tube for draining fluid from a press wherein a conduit is in communication between the supply tube and drain tube and proximate to the supply tube and drain tube.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite that a first supply line is plumbed to "supply the first fluid to the press via a supply tube"; a second supply line is plumbed to supply "the second fluid to the press via said supply tube"; a first return line is connected to drain fluid from "the press via a drain tube"; and a conduit is in communication with "said supply tube, said drain tube and said first return line, said conduit being proximate to said supply tube and said drain tube." This is supported in the originally filed specification at page 9, lines 17-21; page 13, lines 5-10 and page 18, line 8 through page 19, line 10, as well as in Figure 1 at the top of the figure, where it depicts the supply tube 100, drain tube 110, conduit 200 and solenoid valve 190. Applicant respectfully

points out that Clauditz does not anticipate a conduit that is proximate to the supply tube and drain tube of the press. As such, Applicant respectfully requests that this § 102 rejection be withdrawn and submits that claim 1 is ready for allowance.

Regarding the § 103 Rejection

Claims 2-15 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) for being rendered obvious by Clauditz (U.S. Patent No. 5,330,576) in view of Marschke (U.S. Patent No. 5,967,044).

Further to the discussion above, Clauditz does not render obvious a conduit being proximate to a supply tube and a drain tube which supply and drain fluid directly from the press. Furthermore, Marschke does not remedy the inadequacies of Clauditz. Marschke also does not teach, allude to or render obvious positioning a conduit or conduit valve immediately between and adjacent to the supply tube and the drain tube of a press.

Claims 2-15 are either directly or indirectly dependent upon claim 1 and are therefore not rendered obvious by Clauditz in view of Marschke because there is no teaching, alluding to, or rendering obvious a conduit in "communication with said supply tube, said drain tube and said first return line, said conduit being proximate to said supply tube and said drain tube." As such, Applicant respectfully requests that the § 103 rejections be withdrawn and submits that claims 2-15 are ready for allowance.

Claims 16-21 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being rendered obvious by Clauditz. Applicant respectfully submits that although Clauditz teaches a method of supplying fluid and draining fluid from a press, Clauditz does not teach a conduit means "being proximate to said supply tube and said drain tube." Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that


Clauditz does not teach, allude to or render obvious, "drawing said cleaning fluid and air from said supply tube, said drain tube and said conduit means." In fact, Clauditz has no discussion of drawing air. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 16-21 are not taught, alluded to or rendered obvious by Clauditz and requests that the § 103 rejection be withdrawn. Applicant further submits that all claims are now ready for allowance.

It is the Applicants' belief that all of the claims presented in this application are now in condition for allowance, and a Notice toward that end is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any further questions or comments facilitating allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's representative indicated below to further prosecution of this application to allowance and issuance.

In view of the above, it is believed that this application is in condition for allowance, and such a Notice is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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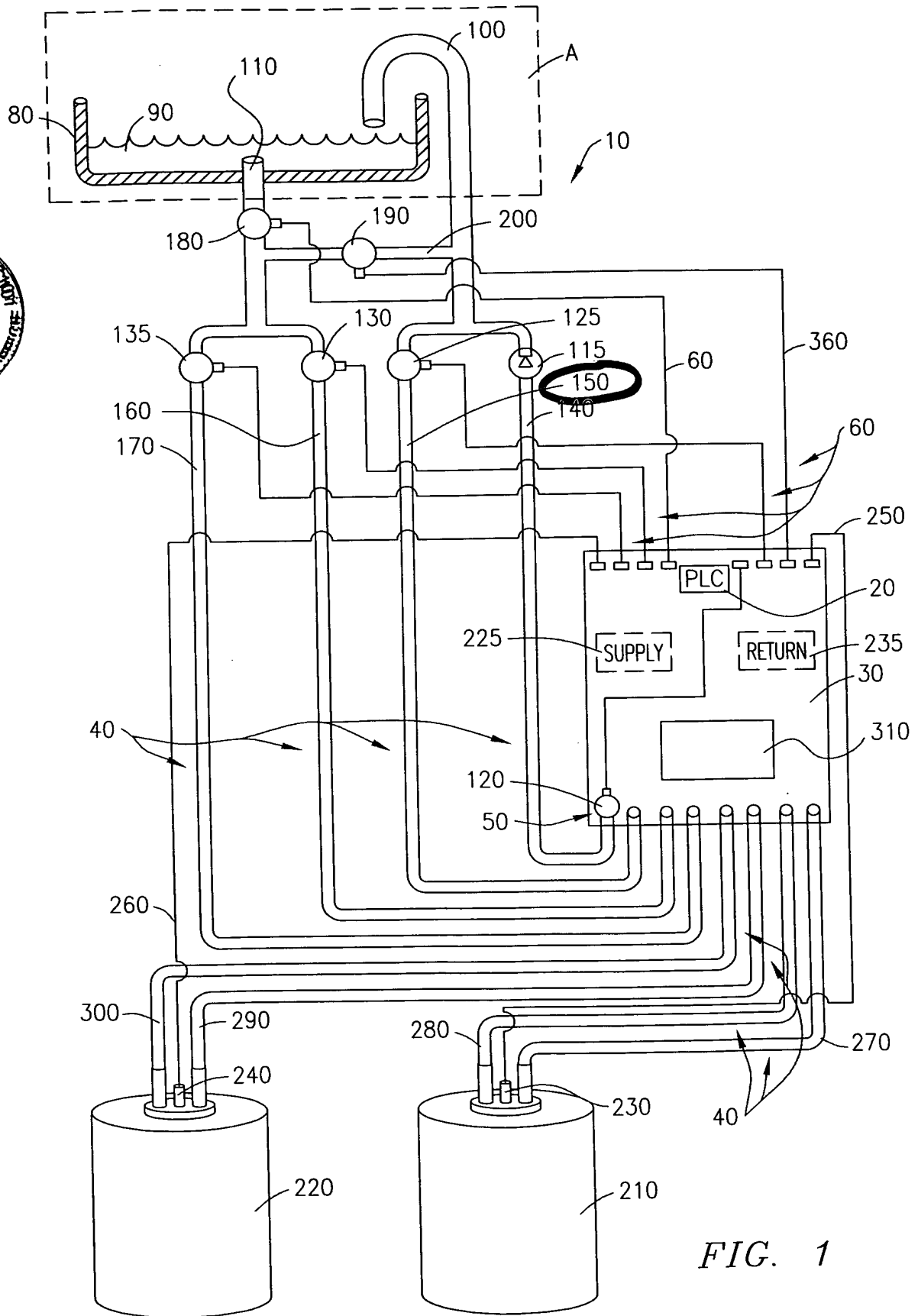


FIG. 1



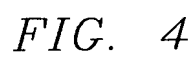


FIG. 4